

**BLUE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE KANSAS GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (March 14, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jadyn Wooten** of **Blue Valley High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Kansas Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Wooten is the second Gatorade Kansas Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Blue Valley High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation’s top high school athletes for excellence on the court, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Wooten as Kansas’ best high school girls basketball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Candace Parker (2003-04, 2002-03 & 2001-02, Naperville Central High School, Ill.), Paige Bueckers (2017-18, Hopkins High School, Minn.) and Juju Watkins (2022-23 & 2021-22, Sierra Canyon School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-7 senior point guard averaged 19.1 points, 7.3 rebounds, 6.4 assists and 2.5 steals this past season, leading the Tigers (15-7) to the Class 6A sub-state championship game. A two-time Eastern Kansas League MVP, Wooten was the Class 6A state player of the year as a sophomore as well as the state tournament MVP. She concluded her prep basketball career with a school-record 1,680 points.

A member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Wooten has volunteered locally as part of community food and clothing drives. She has also donated her time as a middle school student mentor and as a youth basketball coach. “Jadyn is always the most dangerous player on the court,” said Justin Snell, head coach of St. James Academy High School. “She runs the show extremely well, she’s a big-time shot-taker and maker, she sees the floor better than everyone else and she rebounds really well.”

Wooten has maintained a weighted 3.25 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at Oklahoma State University this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Wooten joins recent Gatorade Kansas Girls Basketball Players of the Year Addy Brown (2022-23, Derby High School), Zyanna Walker (2021-22, Wichita Heights High School) and Payton Verhulst (2020-21 & 2019-20, Bishop Miege High School), among the state’s list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade’s commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners’ grants have totaled more than \$4.9 million across more than 1,600 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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